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(19) **United States**(12) **Patent Application Publication**
Block et al.(10) **Pub. No.: US 2013/0060661 A1**(43) **Pub. Date: Mar. 7, 2013**(54) **MANAGING ACCESS TO DIGITAL CONTENT ITEMS****G06Q 30/00** (2006.01)**G06F 7/04** (2006.01)(52) **U.S. Cl.** **705/26.44; 726/28**(75) Inventors: **Eliza C. Block**, San Francisco, CA (US);
Marcel Van Os, San Francisco, CA (US); **E. Caroline F. Cranfill**, San Francisco, CA (US); **Alan C. Cannistraro**, San Francisco, CA (US); **William M. Bachman**, San Jose, CA (US); **Timothy B. Martin**, Sunnyvale, CA (US)(57) **ABSTRACT**

Techniques are provided for managing access to a digital content item (such as an ebook, music, movie, software application) to be transferred from one user to another. The transferor is prevented from accessing the digital content item after the transfer occurs. The entity that sold the digital content item to the transferor enforces the access rights to the digital content item by storing data that establishes which user currently has access to the digital content item. After the change in access rights, only the transferee is allowed access to the digital content item. As part of the change in access rights, the transferee may pay to obtain access to the digital content item. A portion of the proceeds of the "resale" may be paid to the creator or publisher of the digital content item and/or the entity that originally sold the digital content item to the original owner.

(73) Assignee: **APPLE INC.**, Cupertino, CA (US)(21) Appl. No.: **13/226,285**(22) Filed: **Sep. 6, 2011****Publication Classification**(51) **Int. Cl.**
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